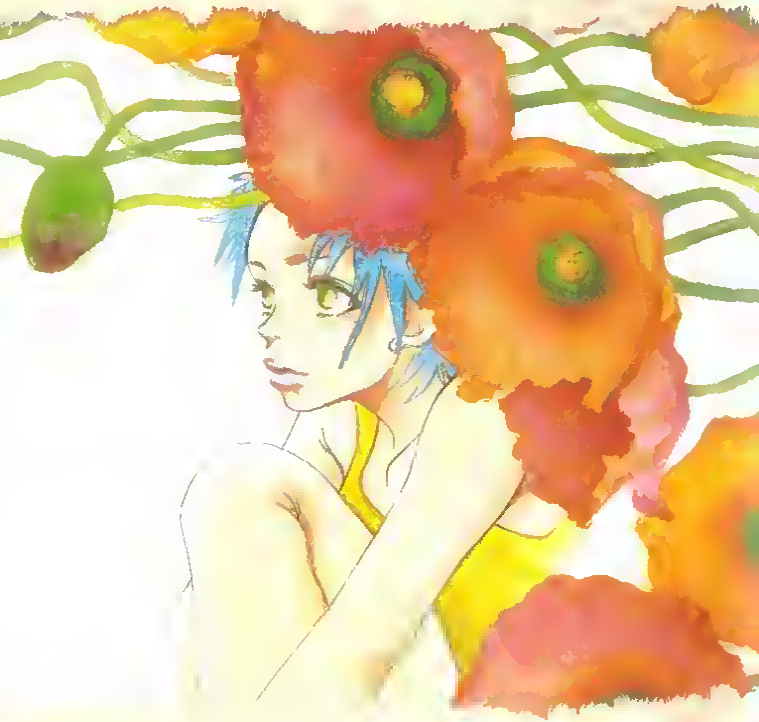
Mari Okazaki



12 MONTHS

1

DELCOURT EDITIONS

Mari Okazaki

12 MONTHS 1

Merino prefecture is somewhere in Japan. There lives Tosachi (a young, vivacious, and cheerful girl), Dorumi (the class representative), Merino (with wings on her back), and many others. All have unique tempers. One day, a boy transfers from another school. And summer starts at that very instant.

AKATA

9 782847 896923

A short author's note.

I felt like drawing the four seasons through flowers, trees, the impression of prevailing humidity, etc. I also wished to show people's feelings, changing over the seasons, reacting to their slightest variation. Throughout that series, a lot of incidents happened in my private life (therefore, in the life of these tales' author) as well as in the life of my characters.

Thanks to these events, I have the impression I may have matured a bit more...

Mari Okazaki

Mari Okazaki

12 MONTHS ①

12 Months

Volume 1 Chapter 1

by Mari Okazaki

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12 MONTHS 1

Mari Okazaki

12
months
Summer's Arrival

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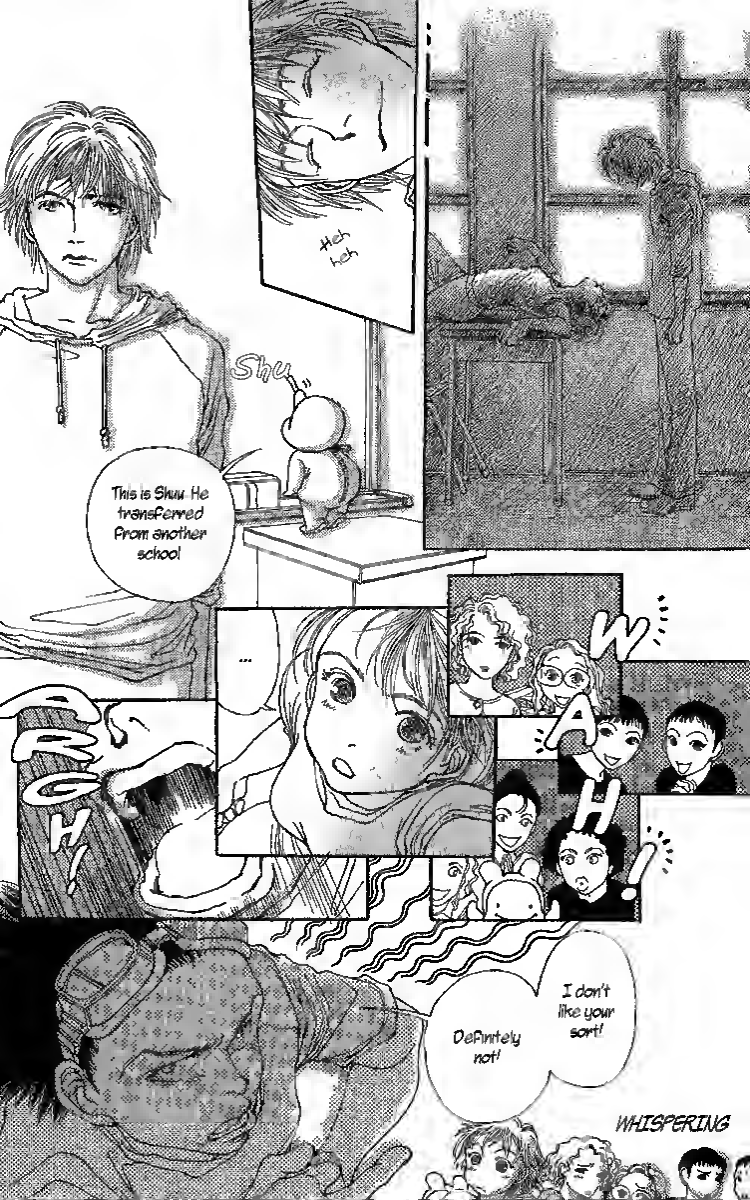
MERINO PREFEC-TURE
A PLACE YOU CAN FIND AT THE SAME TIME, EVERY WHERE AND NOWHERE.
WE LIVE THERE..
Summer!

Summer has arrived!
From over there!
TAP TAP TAP
What about school?
Darn!
I need to go to school!
I'm looking for summer.
Hello, Comm!
Good morning, Tosachi!
Hello, Merino
Good morning
Oh!!!
But I took my school bag with me!

It seems that she detected summer.
What's with her?
It feels good to breathe such fresh air!!
Yoo hoo!!
BRRR
WIND
WIND
SUMMER
IIIII doooood
SNIFF
SNIFF
Her wild instinct is very elaborate.
We don't feel a thing...
WHAT?
WHOOSH
From there!
So? Where does summer come from?
OINK
Look!
Cinnen's shadow has grown darker!
LET'S WITHDRAW!

...
APOLOGIZE INSTEAD OF SCREAMING!
HEY!
Female Solidarity?
STOP!
You're clumsy!
In his nostril!
YUUUUCK!
But if we come across Chika, that means we are...
REALLY PUSHED FOR TIME!

* Kanji for "summer"


Huh huh
Shu
This is Shuu. He transferred from another school
...
GRR!
WAH!
I don't like your sort!
Definitely not!
WHISPERING

WAAH!
Ooh, karate! ♡
SPORTS LESSON
Ah!
WHISPERING
MARTIAL ARTS FAN
So cool!
He's not a malicious boy However...
Boys are so dumb!
Come on! Do it!
Please break it!
Ouch!
CRACK!
120% Male

THAT'S HOW A NEW CLASSMATE JOINED US.
DING DONG
Farewell!
Everyone, I bid you...
I'm Chika.
And what about him?
He's my brother, Seiji.
He's not like that with his friends.
And you, aren't you also going to introduce yourselves, girls?!
Chika just plays at being the nice guy in front of the newcomer!
COME AGAIN?
HOW DO YOU WANT HIM TO MEMORIZE ALL THOSE NAMES?
I'm Dorimi, the class representative
SIMPLICITY

...
THE WILD GIRL!
And Finally, Tosachi.
Chinen.
Oink
De-lighted.
THE ADULT!
Her name is Merino.
...
A WILD GIRL?!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING...
AAAAH!
Hi...
..I'm "and Finally, Tosachi."
SHUT UP!
THROW
Why are you so tense?
UNEASY
Bah. oh?
Sounds like an old folk song title!
It didn't work out!

AH! CHIMEN!!!
OHUCCH!!
NYAA!
NYA!
NYA!
Come on, calm down!
WHY DON'T YOU BEHAVE THE SAME AROUND HIM?!
You shouldn't argue
with each other like that.
DROP
Love?

I thought I heard the sound of budding love
NYA!
NYA!
Maybe that's the reason people tell me I'm cold hearted
But I'd better keep quiet about it She doesn't seem to have noticed it herself...
WOW!
TADA!
Look!

Translator's Note: for "barbecue," but they changed the ending to "beck". Has no real meaning.

How's it going, old man?
You're going back?
Don't point your finger at people!
You know, this old man is over 400 years old!
Hello old man!
HO!
Hey stop it!
Ha ha!
But of course...
Ho ho!!
Ah, there you are!
Of course

BOW
?
Barbecue! ♪ Barbecue! ♪
What's with that song?
It's the "Barbecue Song" composed by me.
The Fire is Flickering!
Flickering ♪ Flickering! ♪
Your song is rubbish.
THUD
Ah, that...
Just stop it!
And a bit of roasted pig!
WHEEK! WHEEK!

BATHUMP
BATHUMP
I feel something invading me from the spot where he touched me.
BATHUMP
BATHUMP
Feeling?
What's this...
BATHUMP
BATHUMP
BATHUMP

I don't have a clue!
BUT OF COURSE!
He he! This looks tasty!
It's surely because of the fire that my face is growing hot
It's ready!
Yeah!
BECK!!
BAR

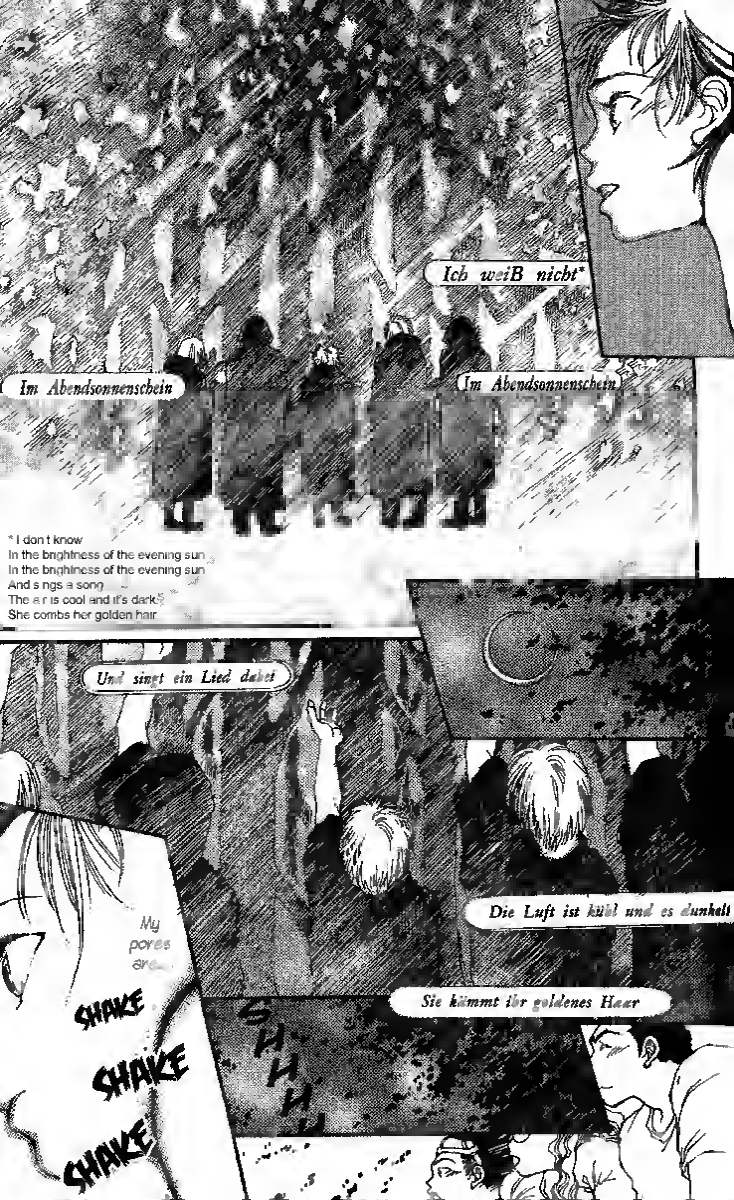
Aaaah!
We had so much fun!
What? My head stinks?
The fish was on my head!
Oink
It's true I should've gone and searched for summer...

Tomorrow, first thing in the morning I'll look for summer instead of going to school
ROLL ROLL ROLL
ROLL ROLL ROLL
No, in the end, I'll go to school
WHAAAT?!

I DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING ANYTHING
Shuu is absent today?!
She already calls him with undue familiarity
absent : shu
The floor isn't very clean, well see for yourself
She's the only one who would dare do that at school
How about we drop by his house after school?
Look's class Rep.

POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
I only miss one person and I have the feeling of choking
POP
POP
Odd
All right, turn after the four cedars...
Don't behave like an old man!
Don't say that!
Well, then go back!
It's too far!

Ein Hund stürzt*
Ah!
* A dog tumbles
** A white foreigner
Ein weiBer Fremdling**
SHHH
SHHH
Hund!
Bur


Ich weiß nicht*
Im Abendsonnenschein
(Im Abendsonnenschein)
* I don t know
In the brightness of the evening sun
In the brightness of the evening sun
And s ngs a song
The air is cool and it's dark
She combs her golden hair
Und singt ein Lied dabei
Die Luft ist kühl und es dunkelt
Sie kämmt ihr goldenes Haar
My pores are...
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHHH

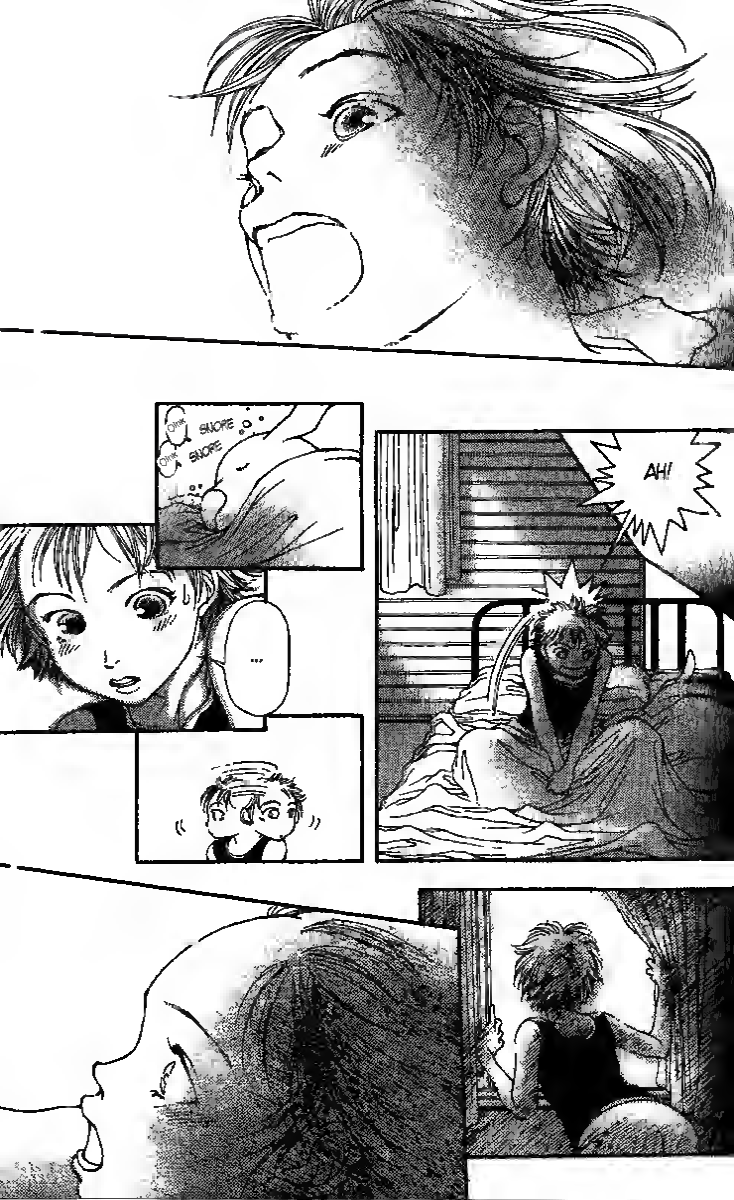
* I don't know
A dog tumbles...

Calm down!
Old man!
Come on, calm down!
I know
No don't start with your excuses!
Old man, what...
Those are the Marksmen of Summer
The Marksmen of Summer?
WHOOSH

They travel all over the whole country
and pull summer, which lays in the south, up to the north.
Dink
Dink
Wherever they have passed, summer is going to be superb.

Oh, look...
Summer has arrived.
NTOOH!

WOOSH


SNORE
SNORE
...
AH!

Wooooow!!
It's summer!
Ding
OUCH!!
BATHUMP
But after the coming of summer
"They travel all over the country..."

Why is my heart aching so much?
?
?
?
Ouch!
BATHUMP
Ouch!
BATHUMP
AFTER SUMMER IS OVER WILL THE MARKSMEN OF SUMMER LEAVE?
And why am I so exhausted?
PFF
PSSH PSSH PSSH PSSH PSSH
PSSH PSSH PSSH PSSH PSSH PSSH
...
Hi
Hello
Hello
Hi!
Hi!

* Translator's Note: Like before, instead of "barbecue," they all scream "Barbeck"

I'll stay here all alone
And I'll continue to go to school
BECK!!
THAT BOY WHO ARRIVED WITH SUMMER..
Yeah!
Ah, Cimarron!
WOULD LIVEN UP THE MOOD
BUT I WOULD ONLY BE AWARE OF IT LATER ON..
HA HA HA HA!
HEY, YOU!! WHY ARE YOU KICKING ME?
AT THE SAME TIME, LOVE WAS BORN IN MY HEART..

Need...more...staff...

ESTHETIQUE NEEDS YOU TO HELP SAVE THIS CUTE LITTLE FELLA! DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES? WE NEED JAPANESE/KOREAN TRANSLATORS, EDITORS, AND EXPERIENCED QC-ERS, STAT!

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IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN